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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of ) Group Art Unit: #5A/  
Ian George Sayce et al ) Examiner:  
Appln. No. )  
Filed: Herewith )  
For: PROCESS AND APPARATUS FOR ) January 12, 2001  
MANUFACTURING A GLASS INGOT )  
FROM SYNTHETIC SILICA )

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Please amend the above-identified patent application as follows.

In the Claims

Cancel claims 2-10<sup>9</sup> without prejudice.

REMARKS

After entry of this preliminary amendment, the pending claim is claim 1.  
Claims 2-10 are canceled. No new matter is introduced by this preliminary amendment.

Applicants respectfully request that this preliminary amendment be entered prior to calculating the filing fees.

Express Mail No. EK99270339545

The Director of the U. S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in any fees due with the filing of this paper or credit any overpayment in any fees to Deposit Account No. 08-3040.

Respectfully submitted,

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